

NewsRelease

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NASA TO SHARE EXPLORATION VISION WITH STUDENTS

NASA's White House Liaison, J.T. Jezierski, will visit Mount View Middle School at 9:30 a.m. Friday, May 21, to share the agency's vision for space exploration with the next generation of explorers. Jezierski will be accompanied by Roy D. Bridges, Center Director at NASA's Langley Research Center, and astronaut Steven Swanson.

Jezierski will talk with Mount View students about America's heritage as explorers. He will outline NASA's stepping-stone approach to exploring Earth, returning to the Moon, then moving on to Mars and beyond.

"The President has laid out a vision that inspires all Americans, but it is with particular enthusiasm that we are visiting the NASA Explorer Schools. Students are the explorers of tomorrow. They now have their mission and they will accomplish it," said Jezierski.

Media interested in arranging interviews with Jezierski, Bridges or Astronaut Swanson should contact Kimberly W. Land at 757-864-9885 or 757-344-8611 (mobile) by noon on Thursday, May 20.

"I've had the good fortune to experience exploration first-hand -- as an Air Force test pilot and NASA astronaut," said Bridges, who assumed leadership at NASA Langley in August 2003. "I want to share with today's students both the excitement of discovery and how they can prepare to play a roll in our nation's future in space."

Swanson, a flight simulation engineer, joined the astronaut corps in 1998. He is currently assigned to the Astronaut Office Space Station Operations Branch and will serve in technical assignments until assigned to a space flight.

Mount View Middle School is an Explorer School and is participating in a three-year partnership with NASA. Stimulating student imaginations and creativity via NASA discoveries, the partnership seeks to inspire young people and help them pursue careers in science, technology and engineering.

For information about the NASA Explorer Schools Program on the Internet, visit:

<http://explorerschools.nasa.gov>

For more information about the President's vision for space exploration, visit:

http://www.nasa.gov/missions/solarsystems/bush_vision.html

For more information about NASA, visit:

<http://www.nasa.gov>

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